

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-276. (canceled)

✓ 277. (new) Apparatus for placement in a patient, comprising:

circuitry, which is adapted to be placed in the patient;

a lead wire; and

an electrically-conductive connector, which is soldered to the circuitry and which is mechanically coupled to the lead wire so as to be electrically coupled thereto.

✓ 278. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the connector is crimped to the lead wire, so as to be mechanically coupled thereto.

✓ 279. (new) The apparatus according to claim 278, wherein the connector comprises a hollow tube, wherein a portion of the lead wire is disposed within the hollow tube, and wherein the hollow tube is crimped to the portion of the lead wire.

✓ 280. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the lead wire comprises MP35N.

✓ 281. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the lead wire comprises platinum/iridium.

✓ 282. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the lead wire comprises 1-60% iron by weight.

✓ 283. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the lead wire comprises 1-40% iron by weight.

✓ 284. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the lead wire comprises 1-20% iron by weight.

✓ 285. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the connector is coated with gold.

✓ 286. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the connector has been treated with phosphoric acid.

✓ 287. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the circuitry is adapted to be implanted in the patient.

✓ 288. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the circuitry is adapted to be incorporated in a catheter.

✓ 289. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the lead wire comprises a silver core.

✓ 290. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the connector comprises stainless steel.

✓ 291. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the circuitry comprises a sensor.

✓ 292. (new) The apparatus according to claim 291, wherein the sensor comprises a pressure sensor.

✓ 293. (new) The apparatus according to claim 291, wherein the sensor comprises a chemical sensor.

✓ 294. (new) The apparatus according to claim 291, wherein the sensor comprises an electrode, adapted to sense electrical activity in tissue of the patient where the apparatus is placed.

✓ 295. (new) The apparatus according to claim 291, wherein the sensor comprises a temperature sensor.

✓ 296. (new) The apparatus according to claim 291, wherein the sensor comprises a flow sensor, adapted to sense a flow of blood in a vicinity of the apparatus.

✓ 297. (new) The apparatus according to claim 277, wherein the circuitry comprises an active element.

✓ 298. (new) The apparatus according to claim 297, wherein the active element comprises a stimulating electrode.

✓ 299. (new) The apparatus according to claim 297, wherein the active element comprises a light source adapted to facilitate photodynamic therapy.

✓ 300. (new) The apparatus according to claim 297, wherein the active element comprises an electroactive polymer.

✓ 301. (new) The apparatus according to claim 297, wherein the active element comprises a mechanical actuator.